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CalPERS to Continue Investing in the Philippines

Westly Action Proves Critical for the Nation

Sacramento, CA – State Controller and CalPERS Board Member Steve Westly today announced that new information provided by the Republic of the Philippines will allow CalPERS to continue investing in the nation. At the CalPERS Investment Committee meeting in March, Westly made a successful proposal to grant a one-month time extension to the Philippines in order to provide information about its investment status.

“The government of the Philippines has made positive changes in response to CalPERS’ concerns,” Westly said. “Given the long-standing relationship between CalPERS and the Philippines, I am pleased that we will continue investing in the country.”

Albert del Rosario, Philippine Ambassador to the United States, praised Westly’s motion and subsequent Committee action. “I commend Controller Westly for helping secure additional time for the Republic of the Philippines to submit vital data to the Committee.”

Separately, the CalPERS Board supported Westly’s proposal to review and clarify the Committee’s policy regarding permissible equity markets.

“CalPERS policy should focus on two main goals: measuring the potential risk and reward of investing in various emerging markets, and providing incentives for countries to seek greater economic and political stability.” Westly said.

Based on Westly’s recommendation, the Investment Committee directed a Policy Subcommittee to draft a formal policy on permissible equity markets.

The Subcommittee will consider changes to the existing policy, including:

- Establishing specific deadlines for countries to submit relevant data;
- Shifting to an exposure draft process, as recommended by Wilshire Associates, to allow all parties to review annual scores and correct or submit data used for scoring prior to Board adoption;
- Changing the current country scoring formula, including factors considered, weighting and final rounding; and
- Implementing other enhancements.

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